

Folder: Smart, Pamela

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Victim's Best Friend Weighs Movie Offers

EXETER (AP) — Gregory Smart's self-described best friend said yesterday he was told he could get \$10,000 if a movie about the murder of his friend was made, but he hasn't signed anything yet.

Brian Washburn, 22, of Londonderry, testified at Pamela Smart's murder-conspiracy and murder-accomplice trial that he was sent contracts for a film about his friend's murder.

"It's okay to enter a contract and make money off the death of your best

friend?" prosecutor Diane Nicolosi asked Washburn, a defense witness.

"Everybody else is," said Washburn, who testified Gregory Smart was his best friend.

Washburn told reporters later he hadn't signed any of the contracts, including one that promised \$10,000 upon completion of a movie. He said he did hire a lawyer to review them.

"It was hard to do. I know a lot of people think it's wrong," he said.

Washburn, whose girlfriend, Tracy Collins, is a close friend of Mrs. Smart,

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said he was shocked when he heard Mrs. Smart was charged with helping plan her husband's May 1 murder. Now, he said, he does not know what to believe.

"I haven't made up my mind yet," he said.

Collins, however, stood by her friend after the defense rested its case yesterday afternoon. She said she didn't blame Mrs. Smart for not telling police or friends about her affair with the confessed triggerman, William

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Flynn, 17.

Mrs. Smart, 23, testified Monday she told her best friends about the liaison with Flynn only three days before her trial in Rockingham County Superior Court began. She also testified she did not tell police because she was ashamed and didn't believe Flynn and his two best friends had committed the crime.

"If I would have an affair, I wouldn't make it public," Collins said. "I don't blame her for not saying anything. I don't blame her for not telling me."

Meanwhile, Pamela Smart's sister told reporters Smart is glad the trial is coming to a close.

"She's holding up. ... We're all trying to hold up," said Beth Wojas, of Windham. "There's

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nothing I can say that will bring Greg back."

Wojas said the family is looking forward to celebrating an acquittal and is grateful for the support they received.

"Hopefully, we'll start our celebration when the jury comes back with a not-guilty verdict," she said.

Closing arguments in the case are scheduled today.